

McCormick County

1. What does educational achievement mean to our community?

- More jobs
- Higher paying jobs
- Better quality of life
- Better future for county and children
- Wants every child to be proud of being from McCormick

2. What is needed in our community so that ALL students can succeed? (Strengths & Challenges)

- Positive dialogue between school and community that focuses on where we go from here and keep out negativity and past baggage
- Quit talking about what we can't do
- McCormick wants to be at the top and but must develop the plan and methodology to get there
- Publicize success – emphasize the positive (package and marketing story to community)
- Identification of students with special needs
- Focus on whole child, more going on in child's life than school

Strengths:

- After school programs work well
- Arts center

Challenges:

- Cycle of low expectations
- Build community support for students/schools
- Working hours for parents longer and keeps parents from attending school functions
- Some parents are intimidated by schools/personnel
- Belief in getting there – need vested interest of parents and students
- Need a plan on how to get there, proactive from the bottom up with individual student targets
- Greatest problem is attitude- question
- No community centers – no place for children to go
- Existing issues affecting attitude of residents- resignation of superintendent, closing of John de la Howe- loss of jobs, package story of school to market to legislature.

3. What programs, partnerships etc. work well in your community to support all students succeeding?

- Library
- Churches
- Literacy Program
- Lion's Club - sponsors eye tests
- HPP
- Rotary Club – dictionaries
- Mentoring

4. What can we do in our homes and neighborhoods to strengthen our schools?

- Students need to see success
- Community needs to see success
- Talk economic development